



News Release

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Construction Underway on Baseball Complex

Columbia Parks and Recreation has begun construction on the first phase of a new baseball field complex on the 80-acre property adjacent to the Boone County Fairgrounds and co-owned by the City of Columbia and Boone County.

Phase one includes the construction of two baseball fields (400' field and 300' field), irrigation lake, and 140-car gravel parking lot. The City has contracted with Wilcoxson Excavating and Construction for the grading work and construction of the ball fields and parking lot.

The two ball fields are part of a five-field tournament quality complex that will be completed as funding becomes available. Phase one includes grading for the whole five-field complex to prepare the site for future construction. Columbia Parks and Recreation Department will be responsible for the maintenance and programming of the complex when completed.

Funding for phase one of the project is as follows:

- \$1,025,000 - Park Sales Tax
- \$ 220,355 - Recreation Services Fund
- \$ 76,005 - Land and Water Conservation Fund
- \$ 123,995 - Boone County Contribution
- \$1,445,355 - TOTAL

Tom Atkins donated the 80-acre property to the City of Columbia and Boone County in 2002, each having undivided one-half interest. Atkins donated the land with the intent that the land be developed for youth recreation. A master plan for the site can be found on the City of Columbia's website at www.GoColumbiaMo.com.

For more information, call Parks and Recreation at 874-7460.